

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/976,544

Examiner

Dionne N. Harvey

Applicant(s)

LIU ET AL.

Art Unit

2643

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 12/28/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 6/2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying Indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


CURTIS KUNTZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2000

DETAILED ACTION

Examiner's Amendment

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

Please replace existing claims 1-6, with the following:

1. (Original) A customized feature activation system in a vehicle for allowing each of a plurality of drivers to activate personal preference settings for a plurality of vehicle subsystems, said activation system comprising:
 - an identification system including a plurality of remote devices of a keyless entry system for the vehicle wherein each remote device being capable of generating a uniquely-coded transmission for generating a first current driver identity;
 - a vehicle micro-controller located in the vehicle and said vehicle micro-controller being operatively coupled to the identification system for receiving the first current driver identity;
 - the vehicle micro-controller having memory for storing the first current driver identity and for associating the first current identity with preferred settings for a first vehicle subsystem previously stored in the memory;
 - the first vehicle subsystem operatively coupled to the vehicle micro-controller to receive and process the preferred settings for the first vehicle subsystem;

a second vehicle subsystem including a radio that including preference means for receiving preferred station information for storage, memory for storing the preferred station information for storage, and control electronics for preferred station information processing and for receiving the first current driver identity from the vehicle micro-controller and linking in the memory the first current driver identity to the preferred station information for storage;

the preference means further receiving preferred station information for selection and tuning and the control electronics being operatively configured to receive a second current driver identity from the identification system and further being configured to respond to the preferred station information for selection and tuning by selecting and tuning to the preferred station information for storage whose linked first current driver identity matching with the second current driver identity;

the radio of the second vehicle subsystem further including adjustment setting means for allowing user adjustment preferences to be applied to speaker output of the radio via the control electronics, the user adjustment preferences being stored and linked with the first current driver identity in the memory; and

the control electronics being configured to apply to the speaker output the user adjustment preferences whose linked first current driver identity matching with the second current driver identity.

2. (Original) The activation system as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the user adjustment preferences include a volume adjustment, a treble adjustment and a bass adjustment.
3. (Original) The activation system as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the first vehicle subsystem includes a climate control subsystem.

4. (Original) The activation system as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the first vehicle subsystem includes a seating subsystem.
5. (Original) The activation system as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the first vehicle subsystem includes a locking & security subsystem.
6. (Original) The activation system as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the second vehicle subsystem includes an electronics control subsystem.

The following additional amendments have been made:

In claim 1:

In line 17, "including" has been replaced with - - comprising -

In line 18, "for storage," has been replaced with - - for storage ; - -

In lines 29-30, "first current" has been deleted.

In line 30, "matching", has been replaced with - - matches - -

In line 34, "first", has been deleted.

In line 36, "the speaker output", has been replaced with - - a speaker output - -

In line 37, "linked first current driver" has been deleted.

In line 38, "matching", has been replaced with - - matches - -

In line 38, "second" has been deleted.

Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fails to teach the customized activation system for a vehicle as set forth in the claims. **Berstis US 2001/0034220 A1**, teaches a single micro processing unit **20**, having a memory, which is shared amongst the plurality of subsystems. This differs from the immediate invention in that the customized activation system of the immediate invention comprises a radio system being provided with a separate memory and control electronics for receiving the driver identity from the microprocessor **20**, and for further adjusting the radio subsystem according to those preferences associated with the identified driver. Claims 1-6 are found allowable.

Conclusion

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dionne N. Harvey whose telephone number is 571-272-7497. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-5:30 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curtis Kuntz can be reached on 571-272-7499. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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